

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Spending Authority to Update Montana's
Criminal Justice Information Network (CJIN)

Background

Montana's Criminal Justice Information Network (CJIN) connects state and local law enforcement agencies to federal criminal and investigative systems, including:

- National Crime Information Center (NCIC),
- Western Identification Network (WIN),
- Nlets, the primary interstate law-enforcement network in the U.S., and
- the FBI's Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS).

CJIN also provides law enforcement agencies access to Montana warrant files, motor vehicle records, concealed weapons permits and criminal history records.

Speed in information exchange is critical to public and officer safety. The Department of Justice Information Technology Services Division is responsible for keeping up with the new technologies that allow CJIN to provide access to accurate information as quickly as possible.

Every four years, the department updates the technologies that drive CJIN to make sure that Montana's network keeps up with the latest advances and enhancements. The next scheduled update is due in 2008.

The improvements scheduled for 2008 will allow law enforcement to take advantage of new technologies, including:

- web-based services for accessing and sharing new and existing sources of information;
- wireless devices, such as handheld devices for officers that will provide access to federal, state and local systems; and
- software advances such as electronic citations from the courts, global position systems (GPS) and geographical information systems (GIS).

Funding Request

The department requests a biennial appropriation of \$375,000 in additional spending authority for the required hardware and software upgrades. The funding for this project comes directly from CJIN user fees. No general fund is required.

	FY 08	FY 09
State Special Revenue	\$375,000	-0-